

Lincoln

VIA: AIR  
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. HGG-A-861

~~PBSUCCESS/RBAT/SECRET~~  
CLASSIFICATION

APR 6 1954

TO : Chief, Lincoln

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM : Chief of Station, Guatemala [ ]

INFO: Washington

SUBJECT: GENERAL— KUGOWN Operations

SPECIFIC— Weapons and Ammunition for Essence

1. Essence asked Razmara if he could obtain eight .38 calibre pistols and 100-200 rounds of ammunition for each gun.
2. During a recent meeting between Razmara and Essence the latter stated that he fully expects that any military action to unseat the present regime would possibly provoke considerable bloodshed between the contending forces. He also observed that his actions against the government might force him into hiding in order to avoid arrest and subsequent torture.
3. In either event Essence may possibly be faced with great personal danger, and in anticipation of such an eventuality he is planning a safe haven for himself and close associates, hence the request for guns and ammunition. Razmara feels that this is a genuine request for weapons for the stated purpose (self protection) and not for unauthorized or undisclosed black action being contemplated by Essence. He therefore recommends that it be approved.
4. In principle we are very reluctant to issue weapons since people often become foolhardy and impetuous with a gun in their possession. However, the maintaining of Essence morale at a high key is of great importance, and we are forwarding this request to you for consideration with the thought in mind that a refusal may cause him to think that we are only interested in his "use" and not in his personal safety. If it is decided to forward the guns and ammunition, we plan to retain them in a safe place under station control but arranged in such a manner that they may be used quickly in an emergency situation of the type anticipated by Essence. Our current belief is that we should cache these and therefore it is requested that any weapons sent be weather packed for their protection.

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM  
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

[ ]

George L. Tranger

5 April 1954

2003

Distribution:  
2 - Lincoln  
2 - Washington  
1 - Files

8 APR 1954

~~PBSUCCESS/RBAT/SECRET~~  
CLASSIFICATION